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TURKEY 7-26
NIGHT LD TTURKEY

BY JOHN LAWTON

KARAMURSEL, TURKEY, JULY 26 (UPI) -- THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES SATURDAY ASSUMED COMMAND OF AMERICAN BASES IN TURKEY. THE MOVE HAD LITTLE IMMEDIATE EFFECT ON OPERATION OF KEY DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS IN EAST, WEST AND NORTH TURKEY.

U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THE TURKS HAD MADE NO MOVE YET TO EXPEL AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS FROM THE BASES SAID THEY WERE CARRYING OUT THEIR JOBS AS NORMAL.

THE ONLY VISIBLE CHANGE AT THIS MARMARA SEA SURVEILLANCE BASE, IN WESTERN TURKEY, WAS THE ABSENCE OF THE STARS AND STRIPES FROM TWIN FLAG POLES AT THE FACILITY'S MAIN ENTRANCE. THE RED-AND-WHITE TURKISH STAR-AND-CRESCENT FLAG FLEW AS USUAL.

AMERICAN MILITARY POLICE CONTINUED TO SHARE SECURITY DUTIES WITH THE TURKS AND AN AMERICAN FATHER PLAYED BASEBALL WITH HIS YOUNG FAMILY JUST INSIDE THE BARBED WIRE PERIMETER.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SAID THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES TOOK CONTROL OF THE RADAR BASE IN SINOP, A PENINSULA JUTTING INTO THE BLACK SEA, ON TURKEY'S NORTHERN COAST.

BUT DEPUTY GOVERNOR EMIN BAYAR SAID "THE AMERICAN PERSONNEL IS STAYING ON."

REPORTS FROM DIYARBAKIR IN EASTERN TURKEY SAID THE GIANT U.S. RADAR SCANNER THERE WAS OPERATING NORMALLY AND U.S. SERVICEMEN WERE CARRYING OUT USUAL DUTIES.

THERE WERE NO IMMEDIATE REPORTS OF THE SITUATION AT SMALLER U.S. INSTALLATIONS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT ANATOLIA.

THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT FRIDAY ANNULLED JOINT DEFENSE AGREEMENTS WITH THE UNITED STATES IN RETALIATION FOR THE REFUSAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY.

THE EMBARGO WAS IMPOSED BY CONGRESS LAST FEBRUARY BECAUSE OF TURKEY'S 1974 INVASION OF CYPRUS.

THE DECISION AFFECTS TWO-DOZEN BASES IN TURKEY THAT ALTHOUGH OFFICIALLY CLASSIFIED AS JOINT TURKISH-AMERICAN DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS ARE RUN MAINLY BY AMERICANS.

U.S. OFFICIALS SAID IT WOULD TAKE AT LEAST SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE EFFECTS OF THE TURKISH TAKEOVER BECAME APPARENT.

THE OFFICIALS SAID THERE WERE NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO PULL THE 15,000 AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND THEIR DEPENDENTS OUT OF TURKEY.

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SAID TALKS WOULD CONTINUE IN ANKARA WITH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AND IN WASHINGTON WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESTORE ARMS SALES TO TURKEY AND REVERSE THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TAKEOVER THE U.S. BASES IN TURKEY.

U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THE BASES WERE VITAL TO AMERICA'S DEFENSE AS THEY PROVIDED EARLY WARNING OF A POSSIBLE SOVIET NUCLEAR ATTACK ON THE U.S.

IN ANKARA, TURKISH FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN SEMIH AKBIL SAID: "THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO TURN OVER FULL CONTROL OF THE BASES TO THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED SINCE MIDNIGHT FRIDAY."

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